

OREGON CROP WEATHER



**NATIONAL
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS
SERVICE**

USDA, NASS, Oregon Field Office

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Weather: It was a warmer week across the State. High temperatures ranged from 68 degrees in Bandon, up to 101 degrees in Ontario. Hermiston, at 100 degrees, was the only other station to report a triple digit high. Lows ranged from 37 degrees in Baker City, up to 54 degrees in Portland. Moisture was reported at twenty-four stations, with the Joseph station reporting the largest amount, at 0.75 inches.

Field Crops: Thunderstorms and showers delayed harvest activities in north central, northeast, and southeast areas of the State this past week. Haying continued with the second cutting wrapping up, while the third cutting is in full swing throughout most of the State. Cooler weather conditions made irrigation schedules easier for Douglas County growers last week. Hot days and cool nights have helped crops ripen in Jackson County. Grass seed yields are down in Polk County due to extreme heat during pollination. Grain yields in Sherman County continue to be in the average to slightly higher than average range.

Vegetables: Truck gardens were doing brisk business with a wide variety of vegetables available. Growers completed harvesting processing green beans in Washington County. However, in Yamhill County, harvest has not started for vegetable seed crops or processed vegetables. Garlic was harvested in Sherman County with good production reports.

Fruits and Nuts: Blueberry harvest continued throughout the Willamette Valley. Evergreen blackberries were ready, and Marionberry harvest is complete. Summer apples were falling. Prune/plum harvest should begin in a couple of weeks. Peaches are still available at local outlets. Some growers applied their second filberworm sprays to hazelnut trees. Sunburned fruit is making fruit picking difficult in the southern Willamette Valley as the fruit is bruising easily. Vineyard development is progressing; growers are experiencing some powdery mildew. Summer pear harvest began in the lower Hood River Valley with Starkrimson and Bartlett varieties being picked. Elsewhere in the Hood River area, growers prepared orchards for harvest. Southern Oregon Bartlett pears were picked. Peaches, blueberries, and wild blackberries were available.

Nurseries and Greenhouses: Seasonal temperatures in most of the nursery areas. Sales have slowed. Busy with plant, tree, and shrub upkeep. Still some sales of potted plants and balled and burlapped trees.

Livestock, Range and Pasture: Irrigation continued in full swing on pastures with facilities available. Dryland pasture and rangeland conditions continued to deteriorate as most areas continued to be very dry. Isolated thunderstorms did bring limited rain to some areas. Livestock on irrigated pastures looked very good. Livestock on dryland pastures and rangeland were still doing well with some supplemental feeding reported.

Soil Moisture-Week Ending 08/13/06

| | Very short | Short | Adequate | Surplus |
|---------|-------------------|----------------|-----------------|----------------|
| | <i>Percent</i> | <i>Percent</i> | <i>Percent</i> | <i>Percent</i> |
| Topsoil | 40 | 32 | 28 | 0 |
| Subsoil | 34 | 36 | 30 | 0 |

Crop Condition-Week Ending 08/13/06

| Crop | Very poor | Poor | Fair | Good | Excellent |
|-------------------|------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|------------------|
| | <i>Percent</i> | <i>Percent</i> | <i>Percent</i> | <i>Percent</i> | <i>Percent</i> |
| Spring wheat | 0 | 5 | 19 | 69 | 7 |
| Range and pasture | 14 | 25 | 26 | 28 | 7 |

Crop Progress-Week Ending 08/13/06

| Crop | This week | Last week | Last year | 5 year average |
|-----------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------------|
| | <i>Percent</i> | <i>Percent</i> | <i>Percent</i> | <i>Percent</i> |
| Alfalfa hay, second cutting | 96 | 93 | - | - |
| Winter wheat harvested | 80 | 59 | 86 | 84 |
| Barley harvested | 66 | 52 | 82 | 71 |
| Spring wheat harvested | 58 | 47 | 75 | 70 |
| Days suitable for fieldwork | 6.8 | 6.9 | - | - |

WESTERN OREGON

BENTON/LINN/LANE: Grass seed field harvest is in full swing. Fields are being mowed, flailed, burned and prepped for 2007. More sunburn on apples, pears, strawberries and peaches. Very hard to pick due to very soft skins. Blueberries are being picked, nice fruit, a little sun burn, nice crop, very good yield. Some Everbearing varieties of strawberries are being harvested. They are smaller sized this year. Blackberries are a very good crop and good yield, some sunburn. Grapes are a mediocre crop. They are sizing nicely and are experiencing some powdery mildew issues. Voles seemed to have naturally gone away! Pears are a nice crop, moderate to small crop. Some scab issues. Early apples are being picked. There is a heavy crop in some areas. Peach crop is moderate to light. The high temperatures made the skins very sensitive and picking has been very hard. The skins bruise too easily. Farmer markets are open and in full swing. Sales are moderate. All varieties of tomatoes are ripening. Greenhouse and nursery sales have slowed down.

CLACKAMAS: Cooler temperatures are welcome. Still no rain of any consequence. Summer apples are falling. Wild blackberries are getting sweet. Marionberry harvest is finished. Evergreen blackberries are ready. Sweet corn, green beans, cucumbers, squash, peaches, and tomatoes are available locally.

COLUMBIA: Irrigated crops are doing well. Great growing weather.

COOS/CURRY: A wee bit of rain this week just delayed the inevitable drying that happens every year in the fall.

DOUGLAS: Cooler weather is making irrigation schedules easier. No word of any water flow cut backs from the Umpqua River Basin. There are wells going dry seasonally as we hit August. This is pretty common for most years. Pome tree fruit and grapes progressing nicely. Stone fruit crops did not have a good year.

JACKSON: Grain harvest continued. Still some haying was being done (mostly 2nd and 3rd cutting alfalfa.) Pear harvest is still being done, including Bartlett pears. Wild black berries are ripe and some picking is being done. Vineyards are looking good. Lots of fresh corn and other vegetables are being harvested. Lots

of corn u-pick fields. It is a good time to get good fresh vegetables. Greenhouses are getting ready for fall plants. Nurseries busy with plant, trees, and shrub upkeep. Still some sales of potted plants and balled burlapped trees. Cattle are looking quite good if on good irrigated pastures. Lots of irrigation is being done to keep pastures up and green. It is a good week for all harvest work. Good hot days and cool nights that bring on ripening. Pear harvest is getting underway with some Bartletts being picked. Day temperatures have been mostly in the 90's and nights in low to mid 50's.

JOSEPHINE: Second cutting of hay continues. Truck gardens are doing a brisk business, with tomatoes, corn, squash, green beans, peaches, blueberries. Cooler this last week, wonderful weather. Light winds, daytime temperatures in 80's, night time temperatures in the lower fifties. Sunday was very hot.

POLK: Grass Seed harvest is winding down. Fall field preparation has begun. Prune harvest should begin in a couple of weeks. Yields on grass seed are down this year due to extreme heat during pollination.

WASHINGTON: Spring oats are cut, baled and in the barn. The third cutting alfalfa is nearing cutting stage. Grass for seed is done and straw baled and removed. Field corn is tasseling. Blueberries continue to produce. Late strawberries (everbearing) are doing well. Walnuts are looking good. Filberts look smaller and are lower priced than last year. Peaches are at stands. Table grapes are maturing. Green beans for cannery are done. Sweet corn is doing well in many stages. Farmers' markets full of all varieties of vegetables. Cover crops are growing rapidly. Fertilizing and irrigating are on going. Pastures are dry. Supplemental feeding is keeping livestock in good shape. The high temperature was 92, the low was 48. Humidity high was 69, the low was 36.

YAMHILL: Most of the grass seed harvest is complete. Most of the third cutting of alfalfa is also complete. Red Clover is left but getting reports it got baked during the last 100 degree days. Vegetable seed crop yet to be harvested as are fresh and processed vegetables. Some growers are applying their second filbertworm sprays. Peach harvest continues.

EASTERN OREGON

CROOK/DESCHUTES/JEFFERSON: Seed to seed carrots are mostly planted. Thunder, lightning, and rain storm moved through parts of central Oregon on Monday night and early Tuesday morning.

GILLIAM/WHEELER: Gilliam County received a lightning storm followed by some heavy rain, which shut harvest down for a day. The grain is weighing heavy, but yields aren't as high as expected, most are in the higher average. Pasture remains good for cattle, due to the cooler late spring. Harvest continues on the south side with moderate daily temperatures and cool mornings. North end harvest is pretty much wrapped up.

GRANT: Good rain with the thunder storms.

HOOD RIVER: Summer pear harvest began in the lower Hood River Valley, with Starkrimson and Bartlett being picked. Elsewhere growers prepared orchards for harvest.

KLAMATH: Much cooler temperatures, scattered rain showers and some reports of hail. The third cutting of hay and early grain harvest delayed by storms.

LAKE: The north side had thunderstorms during the week, which delayed the second cutting of alfalfa in that area.

SHERMAN: One night of thunder boomers delayed wheat harvest over the greater part of the County but did not shut it off completely. One minor fire started by a careless smoker, but only burned stubble. Heavy dew has been delaying early morning

cutting. Grain harvest is winding down. Yields continue in the average to slightly higher than average range. Hot spell in May stole more bushels than many realized as heat damaged grain made some recovery when rains followed the heat snap. Hail damage has also been re-evaluated by adjusters who have given 5 - 20% increases in losses. Sucker heads producing green berries in crop or delaying harvest of fields. The second cutting of hay had excellent conditions. Garlic is harvested, with good production reports.

UMATILLA: Thunderstorms have delayed harvest for a couple of days. Some hail damage.

WALLOWA: Good moisture was received throughout the county on Tuesday, but some areas also had hail, which caused substantial crop damage in the Flora area. Cooler temperatures helped crop conditions too.

WASCO: The weather was normal for summer, hot and dry. Winter wheat harvest is rapidly being completed, and by weeks end, harvest was estimated to be 90 percent completed. Alfalfa haying continued all week. The annual Thrashing Bee at Dufur was a big event this weekend, demonstrating grain harvest by horse powered header cutting, binder cutting, stationary thrashing powered with a steam engine, horse teams, and other farm equipment was demonstrated. Cattle are holding their own on the deteriorating pastures. Early pear harvest will start soon. The Wasco County Fair starts this coming week and runs through next weekend.

Weather data for selected stations in Oregon, Week ending: August 13, 2006 (as of 11:00 am) ¹

| Station | Air temperature ² | | | | Growing degree days ³ | | Last week precip. ⁴ | | | Season cum. precipitation ⁵ | | | |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------|------|------|------------------|----------------------------------|------------------|--------------------------------|------------------|-------------------|--|------------------|-------------|-------------------|
| | Low | High | Avg. | DFN ⁶ | Total | DFN ⁶ | Total inches | DFN ⁶ | Days ⁷ | Total inches | DFN ⁶ | Pct. normal | Days ⁷ |
| COASTAL AREAS | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Astoria/Clatsop | 46 | 70 | 60 | -2 | 70 | -7 | 0.14 | -0.10 | 1 | 76.77 | 11.28 | 117 | 185 |
| Bandon ⁸ | 51 | 68 | 58 | -2 | 59 | -4 | - | -0.19 | - | 63.92 | 5.69 | 110 | 143 |
| Crescent City | 46 | 70 | 55 | -4 | 40 | -23 | 0.05 | -0.14 | 1 | 79.07 | 14.51 | 122 | 148 |
| Florence | 39 | 73 | 58 | -3 | 58 | -19 | 0.01 | -0.25 | 1 | 81.78 | 6.23 | 108 | 168 |
| Tillamook | 45 | 77 | 58 | -2 | 57 | -6 | 0.06 | -0.26 | 1 | 93.72 | 6.29 | 107 | 185 |
| WILLAMETTE VALLEY | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Aurora ⁸ | 47 | 91 | 69 | +2 | 131 | +12 | - | -0.18 | - | 49.94 | 9.54 | 124 | 155 |
| Corvallis | 47 | 90 | 67 | +0 | 117 | +0 | - | -0.16 | - | 49.98 | 7.87 | 119 | 159 |
| Detroit Lake ⁸ | 47 | 92 | 69 | +6 | 132 | +41 | 0.02 | -0.23 | 1 | 100.93 | 34.24 | 151 | 175 |
| Eugene | 43 | 90 | 67 | -2 | 118 | -8 | - | -0.21 | - | 45.70 | -2.93 | 94 | 146 |
| Hillsboro | 44 | 93 | 68 | +2 | 127 | +14 | - | -0.21 | - | 43.53 | 6.67 | 118 | 149 |
| McMinnville | 43 | 92 | 67 | +1 | 123 | +4 | - | -0.14 | - | 39.87 | -2.81 | 93 | 150 |
| Portland | 54 | 90 | 70 | +2 | 142 | +9 | - | -0.21 | - | 40.44 | 4.88 | 114 | 160 |
| Salem | 46 | 91 | 68 | +1 | 126 | +7 | - | -0.14 | - | 48.13 | 9.48 | 125 | 148 |
| SW VALLEYS | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Grants Pass | 51 | 94 | 72 | +0 | 155 | +1 | 0.04 | -0.03 | 1 | 46.69 | 16.03 | 152 | 133 |
| Medford | 50 | 96 | 72 | -2 | 159 | -5 | - | -0.10 | - | 26.40 | 7.90 | 143 | 107 |
| Roseburg | 50 | 91 | 71 | +1 | 146 | +6 | - | -0.14 | - | 46.39 | 14.10 | 144 | 145 |
| NORTH CENTRAL | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Condon | 44 | 92 | 68 | +2 | 127 | +13 | 0.08 | -0.06 | 1 | 16.45 | 2.85 | 121 | 102 |
| Echo ⁸ | 47 | 99 | 74 | +2 | 171 | +10 | 0.01 | -0.06 | 1 | 11.23 | 2.54 | 129 | 104 |
| Heppner | 48 | 94 | 70 | +1 | 145 | +5 | - | -0.14 | - | 17.23 | 3.77 | 128 | 118 |
| Hermiston | 46 | 100 | 74 | +1 | 170 | +9 | 0.01 | -0.06 | 1 | 11.30 | 2.61 | 130 | 84 |
| John Day | 48 | 96 | 69 | +0 | 133 | +1 | 0.22 | 0.01 | 1 | 10.11 | -2.62 | 79 | 119 |
| Madras ⁸ | 42 | 94 | 67 | +0 | 124 | +3 | 0.04 | -0.08 | 2 | 12.94 | 2.88 | 129 | 117 |
| Moro | 46 | 94 | 69 | +1 | 133 | +5 | 0.02 | -0.05 | 1 | 18.59 | 7.81 | 172 | 96 |
| Parkdale ⁸ | 41 | 92 | 65 | -3 | 106 | -16 | - | -0.11 | - | 45.26 | 14.86 | 149 | 151 |
| Pendleton | 50 | 98 | 73 | -1 | 161 | -1 | 0.02 | -0.09 | 1 | 14.02 | 2.36 | 120 | 104 |
| The Dalles | 52 | 95 | 73 | +6 | 161 | +42 | - | -0.08 | - | 19.02 | 6.87 | 157 | 99 |
| SOUTH CENTRAL | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Agency Lake ⁸ | 40 | 86 | 62 | -2 | 85 | -8 | 0.01 | -0.13 | 1 | 19.28 | 3.56 | 123 | 118 |
| Bend | 40 | 87 | 64 | +0 | 101 | +3 | - | -0.14 | - | 20.98 | 9.64 | 185 | 85 |
| Burns | 40 | 95 | 66 | +0 | 112 | +3 | - | -0.14 | - | 16.32 | 6.76 | 171 | 107 |
| Christmas Valley ⁸ | 38 | 89 | 61 | -8 | 78 | -50 | 0.33 | 0.19 | 3 | 9.37 | -2.65 | 78 | 96 |
| Klamath Falls | 44 | 84 | 63 | -5 | 95 | -29 | 0.31 | 0.17 | 2 | 16.46 | 3.32 | 125 | 106 |
| Klamath Falls ⁸ | 45 | 85 | 64 | -5 | 98 | -26 | 0.01 | -0.13 | 1 | 15.83 | 2.69 | 120 | 136 |
| Lakeview | 39 | 84 | 64 | -3 | 99 | -15 | 0.11 | -0.01 | 1 | 8.51 | -6.75 | 56 | 69 |
| Lorella ⁸ | 41 | 87 | 62 | -6 | 88 | -36 | - | -0.14 | - | 17.90 | 4.76 | 136 | 124 |
| Redmond | 38 | 93 | 65 | -2 | 106 | -6 | 0.22 | 0.08 | 1 | 12.01 | 3.79 | 146 | 98 |
| Worden ⁸ | 39 | 84 | 61 | -8 | 78 | -46 | - | -0.14 | - | 13.84 | 0.70 | 105 | 128 |
| NORTHEAST | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Baker City | 37 | 95 | 66 | -2 | 112 | -7 | 0.29 | 0.08 | 3 | 10.45 | 0.15 | 101 | 108 |
| Joseph | 44 | 89 | 64 | +4 | 102 | +25 | 0.75 | 0.53 | 2 | 20.15 | -3.98 | 84 | 137 |
| La Grande | 45 | 97 | 69 | -2 | 132 | -8 | 0.33 | 0.12 | 3 | 9.28 | -7.60 | 55 | 93 |
| Prairie City ⁸ | 38 | 93 | 62 | +2 | 84 | +7 | 0.30 | 0.09 | 2 | 15.97 | -4.28 | 79 | 114 |
| Union | 41 | 98 | 69 | +2 | 133 | +12 | 0.38 | 0.17 | 2 | 13.22 | 0.05 | 100 | 116 |
| SOUTHEAST | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Ontario | 51 | 101 | 74 | -2 | 171 | -7 | - | -0.07 | - | 13.13 | 3.76 | 140 | 96 |
| Rome | 39 | 96 | 69 | -4 | 131 | -18 | - | -0.07 | - | 10.42 | 2.50 | 132 | 92 |

¹ Summary based on NWS data. Copyright 2006: AWIS, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

² Air temperature in degrees Fahrenheit.

³ Growing degree days base-50 degrees Fahrenheit.

⁴ Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.

⁵ Season cumulative precipitation starts September 1, 2005.

⁶ DFN=Departure from normal (using 1961-1990 normals period).

⁷ Precipitation days = Days with precipitation of 0.01 inch or more.

⁸ Agri-Met weather stations.